



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333

December 18, 2018

Emmanuel Freudenthal
MuckRock News DEPT MR 62280
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144
Via email: 62280-02893661@requests.muckrock.com

Dear Mr. Freudenthal:

This letter is in response to your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of October 12, 2018, for the following records:

1. Any photos taken during the mission to transport Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US towards the end of 2016. This includes photos by employees as part of their work on this official mission, or photos by third party contractors.
2. Any contracts or agreements with Phoenix Air to supply their services for the mission to transport Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US towards the end of 2016 (signed by any institution such as CDC, DTRA, NIH, etc). I'm sure you'll have a copy of that.
3. Any contracts or agreements with Sandia that you have at hand from 01 July 2013 and today regarding their work in Liberia (signed by any institution such as CDC, DTRA, NIH, etc). I'm sure you'll have a copy of that.
4. Any Chain of Custody documents signed for the shipping of any Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the USA between 01/01/16 and 31 December 17. The staff responsible for the sample management at the CDC and NIH will have a copy of that.
5. Any documents with information linked to blood samples that were transported from Liberia to the US from 01/01/17 to 01/11/17 (e.g. the name of the patient, their origin, their gender, their clinical signs etc). I do not require individual documents as I understand that the private information of patients cannot be disclosed. Please feel free to redact that personal information from any documents that contain lists. In case there are many documents that pertain to single individuals with the sample templates, then please provide one of each of the types of documents as a template.
6. The agreement between Liberia and the US (signed by the Ambassador of the US in Liberia) signed around September 2016 for the transport of Ebola blood samples from Liberia to the US.
7. Any inventory of Ebola blood samples held by the US that were brought from Liberia, including samples held at Fort Detrick and Rocky Mountain Lab..

We have received your email of December 15, 2018, in which you withdrew Item #3 of your request.

However, we still require additional information in order to process your request. Please provide the information marked below to aid the agency in complying with your request:

- In accordance with 45 CFR 5b.5(b)(2)(ii), an **original, notarized, signed** authorization for release of protected health information is required. A CDC authorization form, the one-page form we require, is available on our webpage at: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/foia/forms/index.htm>.

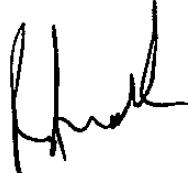
- State health identification numbers (obtained from the state health department) are required for a search of CDC health and medical records, laboratory profiles, or any other data that would assist us with our search.
- Proof of death. Acceptable forms of proof of death include obituaries or death certificate.
- Grant, solicitation, or contract number for Item #2 of your request.
- Facility/site name, facility/site address, or EPA CERCLA number for environmental health investigations.
- Health condition or disease for which you believe the patient's records were transmitted to the CDC.

We have received your email of December 15, 2018, in which you withdrew Item #3 of your request.

At this time, your request has been placed on hold until we receive the information requested. If you have any questions regarding your request, please contact Laura Spencer at 770-488-6290.

As indicated in our letter of December 14, 2018, if we do not receive a response from you by January 15, 2019, we will consider your request withdrawn and it will be closed.

Sincerely,



Roger Andoh
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer
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(770) 488-6399
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19-00245-FOIA